

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are now pending in the application. Claim 6 is currently amended. Support for the amendment is found in the specification on page 24, line 6 to page 25, line 1. In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF IDS REFERENCE

It has come to our attention that the references (U.S. No. 5,291,560 and JP 8-504979) on the IDS Form 1449, filed with the application on February 27, 2002, was not initialed by the Examiner indicating that the references have been considered. We have enclosed a copy of the IDS Form 1449 for your convenience.

We would appreciate your initialing the references and returning a copy of the initialed IDS Form 1449 to our office at your earliest opportunity.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 7, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Daugman (U.S. Pat. No. 5,291,560). Claims 1, 7, 9 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Daugman (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0181749 A1). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

With regard to claims 1 and 14

Daugman and Matsumoto fail to disclose or suggest the feature of the claimed invention of selecting a frequency used for frequency analysis for authentication from a plurality of frequencies.

In Daugman, "DEFINE ANALYSIS BANDS" (item 18 in Fig.1) indicates that the portion of the iris is subdivided into band areas in concentric state (item 112 in Fig.2). That is, "analysis band" of Daugman has no relation to frequency selection.

In Matsumoto, paragraph 36-40 merely discloses a method of evaluating the similarity of the density patterns for the fingerprint image. Therefore, this disclosure has no relation to the feature of selecting a frequency used for frequency analysis for authentication from a plurality of frequencies.

And the other claims, which are dependent from claims 1 and 14, are patentably distinguished from Daugman and Matsumoto at least for the same reasons applicable to claims 1 and 14.

With regard to claim 7

Daugman and Matsumoto fail to disclose or suggest the feature of the claimed invention that the selection of the frequency during authentication is performed based on authentication precision for each combination of plurality of frequencies.

In Daugman, column 10, line 60 to column 11, line 25 merely discloses a method of binary digitizing a signal after 2-D Gabor filters. Therefore, this disclosure has no relation to

“the selection of the frequency during authentication” or “authentication precision for each combination of plurality of frequencies”.

In Matsumoto, paragraphs 153-163 merely describe that the image quality of the fingerprint image is judged and the registration process is selectively performed according to the judged image quality. When it is determined the fingerprint image contains limited fingerprint ridgeline information (s58) from the image quality determining value, the characteristic parameters are registered after the image data is related to the ID code and password. The Examiner appears to think the image quality corresponds to authentication precision of the claimed invention. But this interpretation is improper. Furthermore, in Matsumoto, authentication precision for each combination of plurality of frequencies is not used, and the selection of the frequency during authentication based on authentication precision for each combination of plurality of frequencies is not performed.

With regard to claim 9

In Matsumoto, paragraph 116 discloses that the ratio of a geometric mean of the low frequency component and the high frequency component is utilized as the image quality determining value. Here, as disclosed at paragraphs 107-116, frequency for determining the image quality is necessarily determined according to the size of the image. At least from this point, Matsumoto fails to disclose that the authentication precision during the authentication is estimated from the “selected” frequency.

With regard to claims 11 and 12

In Matsumoto, paragraphs 161-165 discloses that it is determined whether the collected fingerprint matches with a fingerprint registered in the memory by using the character parameters extracted from the fingerprint image. This is merely the normal, ordinary authentication process. On the other hand, in claimed inventions, according to the estimated authentication precision, whether or not the person to be authenticated should be finally authenticated is judged, or a right to be bestowed on the person to be authenticated after the authentication is controlled. Such features are not disclosed nor suggested by Matsumoto.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-4, 6, 8 10 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Daugman. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to claim 3

Matsumoto fails to disclose that the selection of the frequency during authentication is performed based on a resolution of the iris image. In Matsumoto, paragraph 117-119 and 120-127 merely discloses that the image quality determining value is calculated by frequency analysis for the fingerprint image. This disclosure has not relation to the selection of the frequency during authentication.

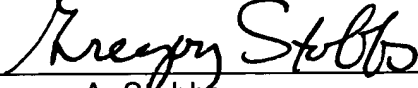
Application No. 10/084,107
Amendment dated November 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 15, 2005

Docket No.: 5077-000087/US

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 5077-000087/US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Dated: November 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Gregory A. Stobbs

Registration No.: 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

P.O. Box 828

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303

(248) 641-1214

Attorney for Applicant

Attachments

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figures 11a, 11b and 11c. The attached "Replacement Sheet(s)," which include(s) Figure(s) 10, 11a, 11b and 11c, replace(s) the original sheet(s) including Figure(s) 10, 11a, 11b and 11c.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)